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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/808,843	03/15/2001	Peter Crane	169.12-0487	5267
164	7590	08/04/2004	EXAMINER	
KINNEY & LANGE, P.A. THE KINNEY & LANGE BUILDING 312 SOUTH THIRD STREET MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55415-1002			CHEN, TIANJIE	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2652	

DATE MAILED: 08/04/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/808,843

Applicant(s)

CRANE ET AL.

Examiner

Tianjie Chen

Art Unit

2652

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 June 2004.
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 and 21-23 is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 20 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

Final Rejection

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

1. Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Soeno et al (US 6,574,077).

With regard to claim 20, Soeno et al shows a microactuator in Fig. 10 for finely positioning a transducer head adjacent a selected radial track of a disc, the microactuator including: a rotor 44 attached to the slider, the rotor including a first portion (the top surface of 44) for holding the slider and a second portion (the side surfaces of 44) for holding an actuation element, and wherein the first and second portions rotate about a rotation center Z; a stator; and means 411-414 for operatively connecting the rotor to the stator so as to permit movement of the rotor with respect to the stator, wherein the means permits microactuation of the microactuator while limiting motion of the stator out of a horizontal plane of the microactuator and limiting motion of the slider longitudinally.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-19 and 21-23 are allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

- With regard to claim 1, as the closest reference, Soeno et al (US 6,246,552) shows a microactuator having a stator and a rotor which holds the slider and is movable with respect to the stator; **but fails to show the means disclosed in specification of this application** for limiting deflection of the rotor out of a plane defined by the microactuator frame; wherein means is referred to a structure which is limited to the microactuator having exact structure shown in Figs. 3-5 and described in specification, pp. 4-6.
- Applicant assumes that the above mentioned means would prevent the stator from significantly shifting vertically out of the horizontal plane of microactuator and minimize the amount of vertical deflection (p. 6, lines 20-22 in Specification).
- With regard to claim 7, as the closest reference, Soeno et al (US 6,246,552) shows a microactuator having a rotor attached to a slider, a stator, and beam structure operatively connecting the rotor and stator, the beam structure including a first beam pair aligned with a width of the rotor and a second beam pair aligned with a length and the width of the rotor; **but fails to show** the beam structure and the slider being aligned in a plane defined by the microactuator.
- With regard to claim 21, as the closest reference, Soeno et al (US 6,246,552) shows a microactuator, **but fails to show** a distal connector

connecting the distal end of a magnet bonding pad and a slider bonding pad, wherein the distal connector is located at the rotation center.

- With regard to claim 22, as the closest reference, Soeno et al (US 6,246,552) shows a microactuator, **but fails to show** that the microactuator includes at least one deflection limiter for limiting the deflection in direction of the length of the rotor.
- Applicant assumes that the above mentioned structures would stop further movement of the slider as the slider is pulled away from the stator approximately 50 microns (pp 8-9 in Specification).

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

4. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date

of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tianjie Chen whose telephone number is (703) 305-7499. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-4:30, Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hoa Nguyen can be reached on (703) 305-9687. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



TIANJIE CHEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER